the prisons of Iraq and the results achieved therefrom?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) The Government had received reports about Indian nationals missing from Kuwait and reported to be under Iraqi detention. The matter was taken up with the Iraqi authorities on each occasion who have consistently maintained that no Indian nationals were held by Iraq.

Khalistani Propaganda

1660. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news item captioned "Khalistani Campaign gains ground" which appeared in the Times of India, New Delhi edition of the 9th October, 1991;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have recently contacted some foreign countries for combating the disruptive activities; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): Yes, Sir.

(b) Khalistani and pro-extremist organisations based mainly in Western Europe, USA and Canada have been indulging in propaganda activities against the Government of India, through pamphlets, magazines and other material with the aim of moulding public opinion in their favour.

(c) and (d) The Government has been in contact with the concerned countries at appropriate levels and through the media to counter the activities of these organisations abroad. This is a continuing exercise aimed at keeping them informed about the factual position regarding the developments in the Punjab and the activities of the extremist and pro-extremist groups in India and abroad.

India's stand on Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty

1661. SHRI G. G. SWELL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the United States of America and the Soviet Union have mutually embarked on a programme of elimination of tactical and short range nuclear warheads on land, sea and air;

(b) whether this will lead to the scrapping and dismantling of Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles as well; and

(c) if so, whether in this context Government propose to review its policy on the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): US and USSR have recently announced their decision to embark on a programme of elimination of most of their land based short range nuclear warheads. They have also decided to withdraw nuclear warheads from ships and certain kinds of submarines.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

India's Diplomatic Relations with Russia

1662. SHRI G. G. SWELL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Russian Federation has approached India for establishing direct diplomatic relations with her;

(b) whether in view of the structural changes in the Soviet Union Government propose to reorganise our mission in Moscow; and

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to have diplomatic representatives in all the ersrtwhile Soviet Republic especially Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania and the Eastern Islamic Republics?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir. Some tentative suggestions have been made in this direction and are under Government's consideration.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) No, Sir. At this stage Government are not considering establishment of resident Missions in Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania nor in all of the Central Asian and Trans-Caucasian Republics of the USSR. Concurrent accreditation is being considered as a method for establishing diplomatic contacts.

Fishermen kept in Bangladesh Jail

1663. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI:

SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that two fishermen belonging to Tamil Nadu were kept in Jail in Bangladesh; and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by our embassy to release the fishermen?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Assistant High Commission of India, Chittagong extended consular assistance including engaging of a local lawyer. With intervention of Indian Mission, the two fishermen were safely repatriated to Calcutta on 5-11-1991.

Dicussion on Aid to establish Multi Party Democracies

1664. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 282 given in Rajya Sabha on the 25th November, 1991 and state:

(a) whether at the Common Wealth Summit meet at Harare, India opposed the proposal to link aid to establishing multi party democracies and good government;

(b) if so, what was the original British and Canadian proposal and what was the Indian stand in regard thereto; and

(c) the final decision of CHOGM in regard thereto and the Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) to (c) During the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) at Harare, some countries referred to linkages between overseas development assistance and respect for democratic norms and Human Rights, or for "good government". However, there was no formal proposal about such a linkage in the Meeting. While India fully respects and observes democratic norms and Human Rights etc., it regards such a linkage as inappropriate.

THE CHOGM documents do not refer to this issue.

भारतीय विदेश नीति में परिवर्तन

1665. **श्री राम अवधेश सिंह** : क्या विदेश मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार सोवियत संघ के विघटन के पश्चात् भारतीय विदेश नीति में भारी परिवर्तन करने का विचार रखती है और यदि हां, तो उनका ब्यौरा क्या है ;